

Claims:

1. Universal uninterruptible power supply (UPS) input circuitry configured for connecting a backup power system selected from one or more different types of backup power systems to a UPS system, the input circuitry comprising:

a diode bridge coupled to receive power from the selected backup power system;

a boost converter coupled to receive the power from the diode bridge;

an auxiliary converter coupled to inputs of the selected backup power system; and

a software unit coupled to the input circuitry, wherein the software unit configures the input circuitry to operate in conjunction with the selected backup power system.

2. The input circuitry of claim 1, wherein the software unit monitors at least one parameter associated with the selected backup system.

3. The input circuitry of claim 1, wherein the software unit monitors at least one parameter associated with the input circuitry.

4. The input circuitry of claim 1, wherein the software unit provides a user interface that allows a user to select which backup system is coupled to the input circuitry.

5. The input circuitry of claim 1, wherein the software unit controls the selected auxiliary converter to provide an operational signal.

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6. The input circuitry of claim 5, wherein the operational signal is provided to the selected backup system to maintain the selected backup system in a ready state.

7. The input circuitry of claim 5, wherein the operational signal is provided to the diode bridge to compensate for signals generated by the selected backup system.

8. The input circuitry of claim 1, wherein the software unit configures the auxiliary unit to operate as a motor controller.

9. The input circuitry of claim 1, wherein the software unit configures the auxiliary unit operate as a battery charger.

10. The input circuitry of claim 1, wherein the software unit configures the auxiliary unit to operate as an active filter.

11. The input circuitry of claim 1, wherein the diode bridge comprises a plurality of diodes.

12. The input circuitry of claim 1, wherein the diode bridge comprises a plurality of thyristors.

13. A method for configuring universal uninterruptible power supply (UPS) input circuitry to connect a backup power system selected from one or more different back-up systems to a UPS system, the method comprising:

coupling the selected backup system to the input circuitry;

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indicating which backup system was selected to a software unit;

configuring the input circuitry to operate in conjunction with the backup system based on the indication; and

operating the input circuitry such that power is substantially continuously provided to a load.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the indication comprises selecting a particular type of backup system that is coupled to the input circuitry.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the configuring comprises activating a first monitoring device.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the operating comprises controlling an auxiliary converter to provide a motoring function for the selected backup system

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the operating comprises controlling an auxiliary converter to provide a battery charging function for the selected backup system.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein the operating comprises controlling an auxiliary converter to provide an active filtering function for signals generated by the selected backup system.

19. The method of claim 13, wherein the operating comprises ensuring that the selected backup system is constantly ready to provide power to the load.

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20. The method of claim 13, further comprising upgrading software resident in the software unit to accommodate additional backup power systems.

21. Universal uninterruptible power supply (UPS) input circuitry configured for connecting a backup power system selected from one or more different types of backup power systems to a UPS system, the input circuitry comprising:

a boost converter coupled to receive the power from the selected power system;

an auxiliary converter coupled to inputs of the selected backup power system; and

a software unit coupled to the input circuitry, wherein the software unit configures the input circuitry to operate in conjunction with the selected backup power system.

22. An uninterruptible power supply (UPS) system configured for connection to at least one backup power system, said UPS system comprising:

universal UPS input circuitry having first circuitry required for connecting said at least one backup power system to said UPS system; and

a plurality of slots configured to receive additional circuitry such that said universal UPS input circuitry can interconnect at least another backup power system that is different than said at least one backup power system to said UPS system.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein said additional circuitry comprises a diode bridge.

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24. The system of claim 22, wherein said additional circuitry comprises a boost converter.

25. The system of claim 22, wherein said additional circuitry comprises an auxiliary converter.

26. The system of claim 22 further comprising a a third backup power system that can be coupled to said UPS system without utilizing said universal UPS input circuitry.

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